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WAREHAM AND PURBECK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL


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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1956





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# PREFACE

Public Health Office,  
12a, Institute Road,  
Swanage, Dorset.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wareham and Purbeck  
Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madeline Lady Lees, Mrs. Worley Morton and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District for the year 1956.

There was no serious outbreak of infectious disease and the health of the district, generally speaking, remained satisfactory throughout the year.

Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified one of which was fatal, compared with eight cases, one being fatal, in 1955.

Births registered during the year were two fewer and deaths were thirteen more than in 1955. The area comparability factors for birth and death rates given in the report are supplied by the Registrar General and make allowance for the variations in sex and age groups, and in the case of death rate takes account of residential institutions in the area. They are used to multiply the respective crude birth and death rates so as to make them comparable with the rates of the country as a whole.

It is pleasing to again report an increased number of houses being improved with the aid of grant under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949. The prospect of applicants for Council houses is not so bright owing to the unavoidable slowing up of the Council's housing programme. The need of young families living in furnished rooms and shared accommodation is mentioned in the housing section of this report.

Negotiations are still proceeding in connection with the Council's comprehensive water supply schemes, and the regrouping of water undertakings in the area is foreshadowed.

The report is set out in sections in the following order -

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Once again I wish to thank the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration, and the Public Health Inspectors and other Officers of the Council for their help and co-operation throughout the year. In addition, I would like to thank Mr. Grant for his help in preparing this report and Mr. Flatt for his help with the engineering aspect of water supply.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

E. J. O'KEEFFE

August, 1957

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E. J. O'Keefe, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. D. Grant, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. - Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.  
Meat and Food Cert.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F. A. White, M.A.P.H.I. - Cert R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

Office accommodation and clerical assistance for the Medical Officer of Health who is also Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Wareham and Swanage Urban District, and Assistant County Medical Officer, Dorset, is provided jointly by the Authorities concerned.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

General Statistics

1.	Area of the Rural District	...	...	95,954 acres
2.	Population -			
	At Census 1951	...	...	19,307
	As estimated by Registrar General -			
	Home population mid 1955	...	...	20,210
	mid 1956	...	...	20,480
3.	Total number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book at end of 1955	...	...	5,291
	at end of 1956	...	...	5,328
4.	Rateable value at 1st. April, 1956	...	...	£162,706
5.	Sum represented by Penny Rate	...	...	£652.6.11d.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Live Births</u>					
Total registered	...	...	317	169	148
Legitimate	...	...	300	161	139
Illegitimate	...	...	17	8	9
<u>Still Births</u>					
Total registered	...	...	7	4	3
Legitimate	...	...	7	4	3
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	-
<u>Deaths</u>					
Total registered			193	101	92
<u>Infant Mortality</u>					
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</u>					
Total registered	...	...	2	1	1
Legitimate	...	...	2	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	-
<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</u>					
Total registered	...	...	1	-	1
Legitimate	...	...	1	-	1
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	-

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1956

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Home Population 15.5

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Home Population 9.4

Area Comparability Factors

Births 1.11      Deaths 1.19

	<u>Wareham &amp; Purbeck</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate (Standardised) per 1,000 Home Population	17.2	15.6
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still Births)	21.6	23.0
Death Rate (Standardised) per 1,000 Home Population	11.2	11.7
Infant Mortality rates per 1,000 Live Births - all causes under 1 year of age.	6.3	23.8

CAUSES OF DEATH - YEAR 1956

(Supplied by the Registrar General)

	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory .. ..	1	1	2
2	Tuberculosis, other .. ..	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease .. ..	-	1	1
4	Diphtheria .. ..	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough .. ..	1	-	1
6	Meningococcal infections .. ..	-	1	1
7	Acute poliomyelitis .. ..	-	1	1
8	Measles .. ..	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. ..	1	3	4
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. ..	2	-	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast .. ..	-	5	5
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. ..	-	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	13	21
15	Leukemia, aleukemia .. ..	2	-	2
16	Diabetes .. ..	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system .. ..	9	16	25
18	Coronary disease, angina .. ..	16	11	27
19	Hypertension with heart disease .. ..	2	-	2
20	Other heart diseases .. ..	23	19	42
21	Other circulatory diseases .. ..	4	5	9
22	Influenza .. ..	2	-	2
23	Pneumonia .. ..	3	1	4
24	Bronchitis .. ..	3	1	4
25	Other diseases of respiratory system .. ..	3	1	4
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. ..	-	3	3
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. ..	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	2	-	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	1	-	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. ..	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations .. ..	1	-	1
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases .. ..	6	6	12
33	Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	5	-	5
34	All other accidents .. ..	6	-	6
35	Suicide .. ..	-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war .. ..	-	-	-
	Total .. ..	101	92	193



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

Two local schemes for water supply were completed during the year, one at Bere Regis to afford a supply to the whole village with water from the Briantspuddle source, and one at Acton in the parish of Langton Matravers with water taken in bulk from the Swanage Urban District Council's supply. No new sources of public supply were brought into use during the year.

Increasing difficulty was experienced in maintaining a satisfactory supply at Winfrith from the borehole at East Knighton. A start was made on the cleaning and deepening of the borehole in December and it is hoped that this will enable it, in future, to meet the summer demand.

Acute water shortage is experienced almost invariably every summer in the Valley Road, Harmans Cross area of the parish of Langton Matravers, where development has taken place in the years following both wars and where the only water available is from shallow wells and rain water tanks. Householders make arrangements for the cartage of water from a neighbouring public supply during periods of shortage. Apart from the supply to Acton and Bere Regis the water supply position in the district has remained substantially the same as in 1955.

A total of 146 samples of water were taken during the year for bacteriological examination. 93 were taken from public supplies, 10 from small piped supplies and 43 from individual wells. The results of bacteriological examinations are given on page 5. As a result of the unsatisfactory samples from the East Stoke spring which supplies the Council houses, chlorination of the supply is now carried out. The unsatisfactory results from the Bere Regis and Acton public supply were obtained from samples taken during the sterilization of the new mains before they were brought into use.

During the latter part of the year the Council had under consideration Circular 52/56 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, dated 26th. September, 1956, relating to the regrouping of water undertakings which was sent to all water undertakers, and the Council had preliminary joint discussions with neighbouring water undertakers to discuss regrouping.

#### Statutory Areas of Supply of Water Undertakings within the District

Poole Corporation Supply: The parishes of Lytchett Minster and Lytchett Matravers; so much of the parish of Morden as lies to the north of an imaginary straight line commencing at the most westerly extremity of the parish of Lytchett Matravers and running in a direction west by north terminating at the southernmost extremity of the parish of Sturminster Marshall, and so much of the parish of Wareham St. Martin as lies to the east of an imaginary line drawn parallel to and 200 yards to the west of the main road from Blandford to Wareham.

Swanage Urban District Council's Supply: The parish of Langton Matravers and the village of Corfe Castle.

Lulworth Castle Estate Supply: The parish of West Lulworth.

#### Proposed New Water Supplies:

Main Comprehensive Scheme: This scheme is for the supply of water from the Council's borehole at Briantspuddle which was acquired in 1952, to all parts of the district not already served by a piped supply from a public water undertaking. The scheme had been included provisionally by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in the Grant-aided work for 1956/57, but no progress was made in the construction of works during the year. Negotiations are still proceeding with the Authority for the proposed Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Winfrith for a bulk supply of water to that establishment. Negotiations were also taking place with the War Department for a bulk supply to Bovington Camp. No decision was reached as to the amount of water the Swanage Urban District Council will require.



## Temporary Village District Schemes

These are schemes for the supply of water from local sources until water becomes available from the main Briantspuddle source, and are planned so that the greater part of the installation and distributing mains can be used when the main comprehensive scheme is developed. Schemes have already been completed for supplying Church Knowle, Bloxworth and Morden, Winfrith, Stoborough, Ridge and Acton.

Studland: This scheme is still in abeyance.

### Piped Supplies.

#### Public

Acton: From a bulk supply taken from Swanage Urban District Council's supply.

Affpuddle and Turners Puddle: From the Briantspuddle source. The water is derived from a deep bore in the chalk at Briantspuddle and is chlorinated. Samples taken for bacteriological examination have proved satisfactory.

Bestwall area and a few houses at Worgret: From the Wareham Borough Council's supply.

Church Knowle, Bloxworth and Morden, and Winfrith are each supplied from local sources by the Rural District Council.

Corfe Castle and Langton Matravers. From the Swanage Urban District Council's supply.

Stoborough and Ridge are supplied by the Rural District Council with water purchased in bulk from the Wareham Borough Council.

Upton, Lytchett Minster, Organford and Sandford from Poole Corporation supply.

West Lulworth, East Lulworth and Coombe Keynes from the Lulworth Castle Estate supply.

These supplies have been satisfactory throughout the year both with regard to quantity and quality.

#### Privately Owned

Chaldon Herring has a standpipe supply from Lulworth Castle Estate, and the water bacteriologically is highly satisfactory.

Kingston, Kimmeridge and Wool village have small piped gravity supplies from surface springs. The water, with the exception of the Kingston supply which is chlorinated, is untreated and the results of bacteriological examinations of samples taken from these small supplies are variable.

Studland Village supply is derived from surface water collected on neighbouring heathland areas. The water is sand filtered and give consistent highly satisfactory results. The quality of water available is very limited and shortage is experienced during summer months.

There has been no major alteration to the source of supply in these areas during the year.



Number of Houses and Population in each Parish having a piped supply

(i) Water supplied by Statutory Undertakings

Parish	No. of Houses	Population	Name of Supply	Direct to Houses		By means of Standpipe	
				Houses	Pop.	Houses	Pop.
Affpuddle	117	376	R.D.C.	53	176	46	154
Arne	298	864	"	199	541	-	-
Bere Regis	357	1146	"	79	259	-	-
Bloxworth	69	204	"	67	190	-	-
Church Knowle	130	418	"	95	317	-	-
Corfe Castle	488	1410	Swanage U.D.C.	268	918	46	151
Langton Matravers	341	1207	" "	151	543	130	410
Lytchett Matravers	377	1105	Poole Corporation	147	526	-	-
Lytchett Minster	825	2372	" "	660	1497	15	48
Wareham St. Martin	420	1304	" "	401	1138	-	-
West Lulworth	198	744	Lulworth Estate	129	470	70	256
Wool	555	2031	Bov. Camp W.D.	152	460	18	63
Morden	155	490	R.D.C.	124	458	-	-
Turners Puddle	24	87	"	10	27	5	14
Winfrith	202	587	"	133	488	-	-

(ii) Water Supplied by Private Estate - Village Supplies

Chaldon Herring	68	197	Lulworth Estate	11	29	25	80
Coombe Keynes	32	106	" "	15	40	17	47
Corfe Castle	488	1410	Encombe Estate	32	113		
			Bankes Estate	10	35		
East Holme	17	54	Private supply	8	21		
East Lulworth	80	275	Lulworth Estate	34	109	40	127
East Stoke	116	349	Private supply	12	40		
Kimmeridge	29	79	" "	6	19	22	66
Lytchett Matravers	377	1105	" "	11	36		
Moreton	89	298	" "	8	25		
Steeple	45	154	" "	8	23	4	11
Studland	209	635	Bankes Estate	123	361	37	116
Wool	555	2031	Private supply	91	235	-	-
Worth Matravers	200	557	" "	15	43	-	-

1. Public Supplies. Bacteriological Examinations of Water Supplies

Supply	Parish	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Wareham & Purbeck R.D.C.	Acton	8	3	-	5
	Briantspuddle	12	10	-	2
	Church Knowle	9	9	-	-
	Bloxworth	9	9	-	-
	Winfrith	11	10	-	1
	Bere Regis	26	17	-	9
Wareham & Purbeck R.D.C. Council House Supplies	(Wool)	3	2	-	1
	(East Stoke)	8	2	-	6
W.D. Bovington Camp	Wool (Bovington)	7	5	-	2

2. Village Piped Supplies Privately Owned

Private Estate supplies	Arne	2	2	-	-
	Studland	2	1	-	1
	Kingston	1	1	-	-
	Wool	2	1	-	1
	Corfe Castle	2	2	-	-

3. Individual Wells and Supplies

Private wells springs etc.	Lytchett Matravers	10	5	1	4
	Lytchett Minster	2	2	-	-
	East Stoke	7	1	-	6
	Winfrith	2	-	-	2
	Bere Regis	6	1	-	5
	Worth Matravers	3	-	-	3
	Corfe Castle	5	2	1	2
	East Holme	3	-	1	2
	Langton Matravers	5	2	-	3



## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

There are main sewerage systems in the villages of Langton Matravers and West Lulworth, and in the Sandford and Westwall areas of the parish of Wareham St. Martin. Particulars of these sewerage systems are given on page 7.

Work continued during the year on the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme at Briantspuddle and difficulties were met in dealing with water which delayed completion, but the scheme will be in operation early in 1957.

The first extension of the Sandford sewerage system to a housing site east of Gore Hill which will ultimately serve 110 houses was completed in June, 1956.

With the prospect of adequate piped water supply being available in the villages of the district in the not too distant future, the Council appreciate that the need for main sewerage schemes for the villages will become more urgent and intend to carry out schemes for sewerage of villages as soon as circumstances permit.

### Proposed Sewerage Schemes

#### Briantspuddle:

Difficulties were met in dealing with water which has delayed completion but the scheme will be in operation in the early months of 1957.

#### Corfe Castle:

This scheme which was the subject of a Ministry of Health Inquiry in 1947, is in abeyance for the time being.

#### Sandford:

The first sewerage extension to the housing site east of Gore Hill was completed in June, 1956. The second extension will go to tender in January, 1957.

#### Upton:

The Council gave further consideration to a scheme for sewerage Upton with arrangements for discharge of sewage to a proposed Poole Corporation scheme for an adjoining area, as an alternative to their own scheme with a disposal works at Upton. The Council decided to proceed with its own original scheme. No progress was made on the construction of the works during the year, but it is hoped to go to tender during the financial year 1957/58.

#### Wool:

Tentative discussions have taken place with a view to treating the Winfrith Atomic Energy Research Establishment's domestic sewage in a joint works with the Rural District Council. It is hoped that further developments will enable this scheme to proceed in the near future.

### Public Conveniences

#### Corfe Castle:

The Rural District Council provided a public convenience in 1951, to meet the need of tourists visiting this village.

#### Lulworth Cove:

Conveniences are provided at Lulworth Cove by the owner of the beach to meet the need of holiday makers.

#### Studland:

Conveniences are provided at both ends of the beach by the owner to meet the needs of holiday makers. The Council's scheme for a public convenience to serve the village is at present in abeyance owing to the 'credit squeeze'.



Number of Houses Connected to Public Sewers and Number of Cesspools abolished during the year

Parish	No. of Connections to Sewers	No. of Cesspools abolished
Langton Matravers Wareham St. Martin	3	Nil
(a) Sandford	27	1
(b) Bestwall	3	Nil
West Lulworth	2	1
Total	35	2

Public Sewerage System

1 Parish	2 Locality	3 No. of houses connected to sewer	4 No. of houses within 100' which could be connected to sewer	5 Total houses in parish	6 % Col. 4 connected to sewer	7 % Col. 5 connected to sewer
Langton Matravers	Village	128	223	341	57.3%	34.6%
Wareham St. Martin	Sandford Bestwall	182	188	420	96.8% 100%	43.3%
West Lulworth	Village	145	150	210	96%	69%

Remarks: The West Lulworth sewage which is untreated is discharged into the sea in the deep water to the west of Lulworth Cove.

Sandford sewage is treated by sedimentation, sludge drying and effluent filtration. The effluent is discharged into the River Piddle.

Bestwall sewage is discharged untreated into the adjoining Wareham Borough Sewer.

Langton Matravers sewage is discharged untreated into the Swanage Urban District Council's sewerage system.

Public Cleansing

Refuse Collection

A satisfactory fortnightly collection service was maintained throughout the year. The refuse of the whole district is disposed of in a large disused gravel pit on an uninhabited heathland site. There has been no complaint of nuisance or rat infestation arising from the site.

Cesspool Emptying

The cesspool emptier is working overtime in order to deal with all requests received. Difficulties have been experienced in finding suitable sites for the disposal of sewage and sludge.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Summary of the Public Health Inspectors' work for the year 1956

Total number of Inspections and Visits

Complaints and Nuisances

Investigated	..	..	..	..	115
Visits	..	..	..	..	127

Housing

Housing Acts

No. of houses inspected for defects	..	..	..	151
Visits for such purposes	..	..	..	168
Houses requiring repair	..	..	..	38
Houses overcrowded	..	..	..	12
Revisits	..	..	..	15

Public Health Acts

No. of houses inspected	..	..	..	145
No. of houses requiring repair	..	..	..	26
Visits	..	..	..	156

Drainage

Inspection of Cesspools, Septic tanks, etc.	..	..	..	318
Drains reconstructed or repaired	..	..	..	5
Drains tested	..	..	..	121
Cesspool drainage connected to sewer	..	..	..	14
Effluents sampled	..	..	..	2

Water samples

Visits	..	..	..	..	74
Samples	..	..	..	..	68

Registered and Other Premises

Moveable dwellings	..	..	..	..	112
Schools	..	..	..	..	9
Public Premises (Cinemas, Lavatories etc.)	..	..	..	..	32
Piggeries and stables	..	..	..	..	14
Factories	..	..	..	..	41

Infectious and other Diseases

No. of houses visited	..	..	..	24
Visits	..	..	..	26
Disinfections carried out	..	..	..	3
Bedding and other clothing disinfected	..	..	..	Nil

Verminous Premises

No. of houses visited	..	..	..	24
No. of visits	..	..	..	24
Bedding and other clothing disinfected	..	..	..	Nil
Disinfestations	..	..	..	17

Food

<u>Visits:-</u> Food Premises - Stores, Shops, Stalls Etc.	..	..	..	219
Slaughterhouses, Butchers Shops	..	..	..	557
Bakehouses	..	..	..	37
Dairies, Milkshops	..	..	..	50

Food Sampling

Milk samples	..	..	..	..	Nil
Ice cream	..	..	..	..	67

Diseases of Animals

No. of visits	..	..	..	..	2
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Abatement of Nuisances - Public Health Acts

Nuisances investigated	..	..	..	115
Informal notices served	..	..	..	23
Statutory notices served	..	..	..	1
No. of Nuisances abated after (a) Informal action	..	..	..	26
(b) Statutory action	..	..	..	2
No. of Informal Notices outstanding 31.12.56.	..	..	..	2
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding 31.12.56.	..	..	..	Nil



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply:

All milk sold by retail in the district is either pasteurised, tuberculin tested pasteurised, or tuberculin tested, as the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District is part of a specified area under Section 45 of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.

No. of Milk Distributors on Register 31.12.56	..	24
No. of Dairy Premises on Register 31.12.56	..	19
Visits made to dairies during year	..	50
No. of Notices served on owners with respect to dairies		6
No. of Notices complied with	.. ..	4

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949

The following licences granted by this Local Authority were in force at the end of the year -

No. of Dealers Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk ..	13
No. of Dealers Licences for for Pasteurised Milk ..	18
No. of Supplementary Licences to sell Tuberculin tested milk	5
No. of Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurised milk	8

In addition one pasteurising establishment in the district is licensed by the Food and Drugs Authority.

### Milk Sampling

The following are particulars of the 187 samples of milk taken in the district by the Food and Drugs Authority. Copies of the reports on all samples are sent to the District Medical Officer of Health -

Designation	No. of Samples	Results of tests			
		Methylene Blue		Phosphatase	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	134	133	1	133	1
Pasteurised T.T.	38	37	1	38	-
Tuberculin tested	15	12	3		

### Ice Cream:

During the year there were 7 new registrations for the sale of Ice-Cream under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. This brings the total number of premises on the register to 76.

42 samples were taken during the year and submitted to the Methylene Blue Reductase test with the following results -

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Provisional Grade</u>
30	1
10	2
1	3
1	4

Meat and Other Foods

Meat - The three slaughterhouses originally licensed by this Council have continued in use throughout the year.

They are -

- (1) Parkstone & Bournemouth Co-Operative Society Slaughterhouse,  
Palmerston Road, Upton.
- (2) J.W. Moss, West Street, Corfe Castle.
- (3) T. E. Applin & Sons, Bere Regis.

Throughout the year 557 visits for the purpose of meat inspection have been made and the enormity of the duties has meant that, with the inception of emergency slaughtering, meat inspection has been carried out entirely out of normal office hours.

The following table gives the details of carcasses inspected during the year -

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
No. of animals killed	352	890	721	2587	12,252
No. of carcasses inspected	352	890	721	2587	12,252

All	Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	5	14	8	22
diseases	Carcasses of which some					
except	part was condemned.	56	313	16	517	2938
T.B.	Percentage	15.9%	35.7%	4.1%	20.3%	24.1%

T.B.	Whole carcasses condemned	1	8	1	-	7
only	Carcasses of which some					
	part or organ was					
	condemned.	14	83	-	-	147
	Percentage	4.2%	10.2%	0.13%	-	1.2%

Total weight of meat and offal condemned - 15 tons, 19 cwts. 0 qtrs. 20 lbs.

Other Foods

The undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption-

Meat Products

1 tin boneless ham - 10 lbs.  
1 tin corned beef - 6 lbs.  
4 tins pork luncheon meat 3 lbs.  
2 tins Brawn - 1½ lbs.

Tinned Fruit

26 tins plums - 50 lbs  
1 tin strawberried - 1½ lbs.

Fresh Fruit

Bananas - 2¾ lbs.

Fresh Meat

Part hind quarter - 156 lbs.  
" " " - 78 lbs  
1 lamb (frozen) - 40 lbs.

Miscellaneous

1 tin evaporated milk - 1 lb  
1 tin salmon - ½ lb  
3 tins mixed vegetables - 8¼ lbs.



Knackers Yards

There is one Knackers Yard in the district, in which conditions were found to be satisfactory throughout the year.

Water Cress

Throughout the year routine inspections were made at the water cress beds at Wool, Bere Regis and Waddock Cross, and conditions were found satisfactory. Water samples were periodically taken from the beds and all gave satisfactory analyses.

Preserved Food Premises

The total number of premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of preserved foods at the end of the year was nine.

Food Premises(1) No. of Food Premises by type of business in the district

Grocery & General Provisions	62	Green Groceries	6
Sweets - Confectioners	12	Bakehouses	7
Fried Fish Shops	5	Butchers shops	8
Hotels and Public Houses	31	Slaughterhouses	3
Cafes & Restaurants	30		

(2) No. of Food Premises by Type registered(a) Under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1931

Manufacturers of Sauages etc.	4
Fish Frying	5
Sale of Ice cream	76

(b) Under Milk & Dairies Regulation

Dairy Premises	19
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(3) No. of Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Premises for manufacture of sausages	12
Fish Frying premises	9
Ice Cream	67
Dairy	50

## H O U S I N G

The Rural Housing Survey for this district was completed during the year and the analysis submitted to the Council in October, 1956 was as follows -

<u>Total No. of houses inspected</u>	<u>Cat. 1</u>	<u>Cat. 2</u>	<u>Cat. 3</u>	<u>Cat. 4</u>	<u>Cat. 5</u>
5057	1826	639	926	1229	437

These figures of course are constantly changing by reason of the erection of new houses, improvements, etc. and the gradual demolition of unfit properties. Tables and figures given later in this report indicate to what extent a gradual improvement is taking place although it must be remembered that this does not reflect the true position as no means are available of gauging the disrepair and decline into Cat. 5 of properties placed originally in Cat. 4.

It appears, from the increasing number of applications for improvement grants that the provisions of Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949 have become widely known to the general public. The small table beneath will give some idea of the popularity of the enactment -

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Applications</u>
1951	2
1952	Nil
1953	7
1954	43
1955	60
1956	76

During the year 12 demolition orders were made and undertakings not to use for human habitation until rendered fit were accepted in respect of 11 dwellings.

The number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses at the end of the year was 331, an increase of 12 on the figure for 1955. A number of those for rehousing are newly married couples and young families who look forward to having homes of their own but are forced to live in furnished rooms. These families live under conditions which produce considerable mental strain and tension which may lead to complete disruption of the family and serious manifestations of antisocial behaviour in the children. I would, therefore, urge the Council to give the utmost priority for rehousing to newly weds and young families living in furnished rooms.

### Housing Inspection

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year

- (i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under both Public Health and Housing Acts) .. 296
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 317
- (ii) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (i) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925-1932 .. 3
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 4
- (iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous as to be prejudicial to health and unfit for habitation .. .. 34
- (iv) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation .. .. 43

#### 2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice

Number of defective premises rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority .. .. 36



3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 & 16, Housing Acts 1936

(i) Number of houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. 4

(ii) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice

(a) by owners .. .. 4

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. 6

(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by service of formal notice

(a) by owners .. .. 6

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936

(i)(a) Demolition Orders made .. .. 12

(b) Undertakings not to use for human habitation until fit - accepted .. .. 11

(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act 1936

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made .. Nil

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined the tenement or underground room having been made fit Nil

4. Housing Act, 1949 Section 20

Number of enquiries received during 1956	..	..	..	95
Number of applications approved during 1955, completed in 1956.				30
Number of separate dwellings provided	..	..	..	62
Number of applications submitted during 1956		..	..	76
Number of dwellings concerned	..	..	..	101
Number of applications approved	..	..	..	70
Number of dwellings concerned	..	..	..	94
Number of applications refused	..	..	..	6
Number of schemes completed during 1956	..	..	..	22
Number of dwellings concerned	..	..	..	27
Number of schemes under construction at 31.12.56	..	..	..	40
Number of applications approved but not yet started		..	..	8
Number of dwellings concerned	..	..	..	8
Number of applications withdrawn	..	..	..	4

5. New HousesTotal number of new houses erected during 1956

(a) Permanent	..	..	..	..	100
(b) Prefabricated	..	..	..	..	Nil
(c) Temporary	..	..	..	..	1

Number of houses erected during 1956 with State assistance

(a) by Local Authority	(i) Permanent	..	..	14
	(ii) Prefabricated	..	..	Nil

(b) by other Bodies or Persons .. .. Nil

Number erected during the year by Private Enterprise.. 86

Number of temporary dwellings erected .. 1

Number of permanent houses owned by the Local Authority .. 906

# Control of Moveable Dwellings

During the year the Council approved, under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936, the issue of 10 licences to station individual moveable dwellings and 6 licences to use sites for moveable dwellings.

Licences in force at 31.12.56

(1) Sites .. .. .	34
(2) Individual caravans ..	80

Included in the licences to station individual caravans are two licences granted to persons who intend building a permanent dwelling.

## HOUSING PROGRESS - 1956

Parish	Houses Completed 1956	In course of construction at end of 1956	Total houses owned 31.12.56	Proposed houses 1957	No. of applicants on housing list 31.12.56.
Affpuddle	-	5	-	-	2
Arne	-	-	46	2	13
Bere Regis	-	-	74	2	17
Bloxworth	-	-	8	-	3
Chaldon Herring	-	-	8	-	-
Church Knowle	-	-	6	-	3
Coombe Keynes	-	-	6	-	-
Corfe Castle	-	-	56	2	24
East Holme	-	-	-	-	1
East Lulworth	-	-	6	-	2
East Stoke	-	-	10	-	3
Kimmeridge	-	-	-	-	-
Langton Matravers	-	-	42	2	14
Lytchett Matravers	-	-	84	2	19
Lytchett Minster	4	-	132(6)	4	61
Morden	-	-	22	-	7
Moreton	2	4	2	-	7
Steeple	-	-	4	-	-
Studland	-	-	42	-	4
Turners Puddle	-	-	-	-	-
Tyneham	Military Training Area				
Wareham St. Martin	-	-	100(50)	2	62
West Lulworth	-	-	20	2	11
Winfrith	-	-	30	2	8
Wool	8	2	62	2	20
-do- (Bovington)	-	-	140	2	47
Worth Matravers	-	-	6	-	3
	14	11	906(56)	24	331

Figures in brackets ( ) indicate temporary prefabricated bungalows included in totals.



## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There was no major outbreak of notifiable infectious disease in the district during the year.

There was one death from acute poliomyelitis, one death from whooping cough, four deaths from pneumonia, two from respiratory tuberculosis and one death from meningococcal meningitis in a case which had not been formally notified before death.

### Acute Poliomyelitis.

Three cases of acute paralytic poliomyelitis were notified. Two of the cases occurred in Service families at Bovington Camp within 18 days of each other. The third case with onset about the same time occurred in another part of the district and was unconnected with them.

- Case 1. A child of 4 years with acute polioencephalitis died within 12 hours of onset of illness.
- Case 2. A child of 8 months with onset of paralysis about 20 days after receiving an injection of diphtheria-pertussis vaccine in the left upper arm.
- Case 3. A boy of 14 years developed paralysis of the muscles of the neck three days after returning from a holiday in another area.

### Food Poisoning

Two cases were notified in a family where the suspected food was boiled pickled tongue. Bacteriological investigations on samples from the persons affected, food handlers, others in the family and the remains of the suspected food gave negative results.

One case was notified where the food suspected was pressed pork sandwiches. In this case also bacteriological investigations on specimens from the case, others in the family and food handlers and on a sample of the suspected food yielded negative results.

In all cases the onset of illness, the main symptoms of which were vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pains, was within 5 to 6 hours of ingestion of the suspected meal; the duration of the illness was about 24 hours. The rapid onset and the short duration of the illness suggest that it was due to an unidentified preformed toxin in the food.

Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Measles showed no undue severity. One case of dysentery, Sonne type, was notified.

### Tuberculosis

Five more new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified than in 1955, but the number is not higher than has been notified in some other years.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During the year the Local Health Authority carried out poliomyelitis vaccination of children between the ages of 7 and 9 years, born in March or November, under a scheme initiated by the Ministry of Health. 182 children living in the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District completed the course of vaccination. It is hoped that as more vaccine becomes available and the public are more informed as to the simplicity and safety of the vaccination there will be a better response to the offer of protection against this disease which can leave such distressing crippling defects.

Notifications (Corrected) Figures

Disease	1st. Qtr.	2nd. Qtr.	3rd. Qtr.	4th. Qtr.	Total	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet fever	8	8	4	1	21	-	-
Whooping cough	9	3	9	17	38	-	1
Measles	30	4	49	5	88	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis-paralytic	-	-	3	-	3	2	1
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Ac. Pneumonia	3	3	1	2	9	1	4
Acute encephalitis-infective	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
post-infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	3	-	3	-	-
Tuberculosis - respiratory	4	6	2	2	14	5	2
other	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	2	-	2	4	3	-
Malaria	1	-	-	-	1	1	-

Cases of Infectious diseases notified during 1956

Disease	Total	Age Groups									
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & ov.	A.U.
Scarlet fever	21	-	-	-	1	4	11	4	-	1	-
Whooping cough	38	2	2	4	7	3	18	1	-	1	-
Measles	88	2	7	8	9	11	42	8	-	-	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis-paralytic	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
		Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & ov.	A.U.			
Ac. Pneumonia	9	-	1	-	2	3	3	-			
Acute encephalitis-infective	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			
post-infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-			
Food Poisoning	3	-	1	-	-	2	-	-			
		Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & ov.	A.U.			
Tuberculosis - respiratory	14	-	-	1	7	6	-	-			
other	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			

Scabies and Verminous Conditions

There were no cases reported during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47. Removal of Persons in Need of Care  
and Attention to Suitable Premises

It was not necessary to take action under this section of the Act during the year.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for the Purposes of Provision as to Health (including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		In-spections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authority	29	24	6	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	30	12	9	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority(excluding Outworkers premises)	32	5	1	-
Total	91	41	16	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re-medied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	6	6	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S6)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11	11	-	-	-

OUTWORK

Sections 110 and 111

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers in August List reqd.by Sec. 110(1)(e)	No. of Cases of default in sending Lists to Council	No.of Pro-secutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of in-stances of unwholesome premises	Notices served	Pro-secu-tions
Wearing apparel (making etc. cleaning and washing	52	-	-	-	-	-







